



Effective Homework Time—Training Starter Template

Objectives: All participants in the training will be able to

- Identify 21st century study and learning skills that can be developed during homework time.
- Describe the use of specific skill-building tools and techniques that support success in school, regardless of content area.
- Explain homework time challenges and strategies to address them.

Total amount of time: _____

Number of participants: _____

Preparation: _____

Materials: _____

Training Opening

- Engage Participants. _____ minutes
(Icebreaker/warm-up activity related to the topic)

Introduce the Topic. _____ minutes
(Motivate participants, show them why the topic is important, share objectives and agenda.)



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Training Middle

____ minutes

(Explain the topic in detail, demonstrate and discuss the concept, practice and apply the topic)

- Ask staff what their greatest challenges are during homework time. Ask what are the most common challenges for children and youth.
- Brainstorm and chart skills that can be developed during homework time. Check skills that support learning and success in school, regardless of particular content, such as focus, persistence, and working productively with peers.
- Distribute the Homework Contract and Log tools. Ask staff to work in small groups, noting which skills are developed through use of which tools. Compare the groups' responses. Revisit the skills list and add to it, or note tools and practices that build those skills.
- Discuss how staff can use these tools and other techniques—such as grouping, transition time activities, and choice—to address homework time challenges for staff and students.
- List the three greatest challenges and identify existing strengths or assets for meeting them, such as good staff/student ratio, good relationships among students, strong leaders who are also good students, involved parents, or a large work space and lots of materials. In pairs, discuss the most relevant strategies for each participant.
- Ask each participant to identify one strategy to use right away, one strategy to use next week, and one strategy to observe, learn more about, or learn to apply.

Training Wrap-Up and Closing

- Summarize, consolidate. _____ minutes
(Reconnect with the objectives, check for understanding, discuss questions.)

- Plan next steps. _____ minutes
(Be specific about application to immediate practice.)

- Closing comments. _____ minutes
(Acknowledge, motivate, inspire.)



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Post-Training Assessment and Revision

- Formal or informal assessment of effectiveness of training.
- Note changes to make.
- Note areas for additional training.